

I think the thing that we need to remember as Americans is that while people have different talents, their commitment is always to their fellow man.

What I remember about Roberto Clemente was just how involved he was in Puerto Rico and in the islands because he knew they needed help.

On that day in 1972, in a DC-3 airplane loaded with medical supplies and food supplies, Clemente took off on a trip that would never reach the end he desired. The cargo shifted in the airplane, and the plane went into a spin and dove into the ocean.

We lost Roberto Clemente that day. We didn't just lose a great baseball player and a Hall of Fame player. We lost somebody else. On the back side of this, this is, perhaps, the picture—if you were to ask Roberto Clemente what uniform he liked the most, it would have been a toss-up between the Pittsburgh Pirates and U.S. Marines uniforms.

Roberto Clemente served in the Marine Corps from 1959 to 1962. In that time period, he was on the All-Star team and won a World Series twice, but again, it was his efforts to help his fellow human beings that we remember the most.

A tragic loss for us, but also something for all young people to look at and say: I want to be like him.

Also, Dr. JOYCE spoke earlier today about the loss of Pittsburgh Steelers running back and Hall of Famer Franco Harris.

□ 1245

Madam Speaker, I had the blessing of actually knowing Mr. Harris, he was a very imposing figure and he was a phenomenal athlete. When we think of Franco Harris, this is a picture of him. This is the last tackler that was trying to get him. He picked up a pass that ricocheted off a guy name Frenchie Fuqua and ran it into the end zone. The Pittsburgh Steelers ended up winning their first championship game that day.

In addition to his years in the NFL and in addition to the years of being an idol in the Pittsburgh community, Franco Harris was something else. Franco Harris was very approachable. Franco Harris always had time for those who needed something.

Pittsburgh Mayor Ed Gainey said today that Franco always said yes to helping our food banks, blood drives, and youth sports leagues. He loved this city and this city loved him. His memory will always be a blessing for the people of Pittsburgh.

When you think of these two athletes—not only their great prowess on the field of play, but their commitment to their fellow human beings—the thing that we really have to sort out and dwell on, especially at this time of the year, is that these are incredible people who did incredible things both on the field of athletics, but more importantly in the city in which they

lived and for the people that were around them.

Roberto Clemente died in a mercy flight to Nicaragua and Franco died this morning just days before the Pittsburgh Steelers were going to retire his number and honor the 50th anniversary of the “Immaculate Reception.”

RECOGNIZING JERRY KONTER

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. CARTER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jerry Konter, a builder and developer from Savannah, who on February 2 will conclude his successful term as the 2022 chairman of the National Association of Home Builders.

As chairman, Jerry has worked with both the administration and lawmakers on both sides of the aisle to provide solutions for our Nation's growing housing affordability crisis. This is an especially important issue and it is refreshing to have someone as knowledgeable and passionate as Jerry come to Washington with solutions and the know-how to make them a reality.

Jerry also recognizes the importance of giving back to his community. He has served on the Board of Directors for the Savannah Humane Society, as president of the Jewish Educational Alliance, and as a member of the Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Planning Commission.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of myself and the First Congressional District of Georgia, I thank Jerry for all of his hard work.

RECOGNIZING THE WARE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE CLASS 5A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Ware County High School football team for winning the Class 5A State championship in the State of Georgia. This is a first and long-overdue State title for the Gators. They finished the season with a 14-0 record—also a first for the school.

Ware County faced no trouble as they cruised through four playoff games. They allowed only 27 points to be scored by their opponents. The Gators entered the championship game having allowed just 90 points all season. Their defense was one of the best in the State.

In their title matchup, the Gators faced the Warner Robins Demons, a Georgia powerhouse program known for their historic success. Warner Robins was a two-time defending State champion coming off of a historic 2021 season.

The Gators held Warner Robins to only 13 points and brought the title back home to Waycross.

Congratulations to the Ware County Gators, you made the First Congressional District of Georgia proud.

RECOGNIZING THE BENEDICTINE HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE CLASS 4A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Benedictine High School football team for winning the Class 4A State championship in the State of Georgia.

This is the second year in a row that the Cadets have won the title. In fact, over the last 12 years, the Cadets have won the State title four times.

Benedictine faced no trouble in the playoffs, scoring a combined 155 points. The Cadets, known for their strong defensive teams, only allowed their opponents to score 51 points during their playoff run.

In their title matchup, Benedictine beat Cedartown 14-13. It was the Benedictine defense that won the game for the Cadets as the unit made a goal-line stand in a driving rainstorm in the final seconds of the game.

Congratulations, Benedictine, you have made the First Congressional District of Georgia proud.

RECOGNIZING STETSON BENNETT OF THE GEORGIA BULLDOGS

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize one of the First District of Georgia's finest, quarterback Stetson Bennett of the Georgia Bulldogs.

Stetson Bennett has now cemented himself as one of the greatest quarterbacks in the history of the University of Georgia.

Last week, Stetson finished fourth in the Heisman Trophy voting. Stetson was the first Georgia quarterback to be named a Heisman finalist and the first Bulldog to make the final cut for the award since Garrison Hearst in 1992.

This season, Stetson finished with 3,435 passing yards, 27 total touchdowns, and a completion rate of 68 percent through 13 games. He also showed off his speed, tacking on 148 yards rushing.

In the SEC championship game, Stetson threw for 274 yards and four touchdowns. Bennett will lead the Bulldogs into the college football playoff as they take on the Ohio State Buckeyes in the Chick-fil-A Peach Bowl.

Madam Speaker, I wish Stetson and the Bulldogs good luck as they try to become the first school to win back-to-back titles in college football playoff history.

Congratulations, Stetson, and Go Dawgs.

FAREWELL TO CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SPEIER) for 5 minutes.

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, this is my last speech on the House floor. I have given hundreds of speeches on this floor, but there will be no more. I am reminded of a quotation, each of us is called to do something, and if we don't do it, it won't get done.

For almost 15 years now, I have had the privilege to be in this Chamber to

do this work. Like many staffers who come to this great building, they seek to one day become Members of Congress, and I became one of those.

I was legislative counsel to the late Congressman Leo Ryan, who was assassinated in Jonestown, Guyana, trying to extract constituents who had been held there against their will by a cult leader name Jim Jones.

I am proud that, along with Congresswoman Gabby Giffords' name, Congressman Leo Ryan's name now appears above the Democratic cloakroom. I was shot five times on that airstrip and left to die, but obviously survived, and committed the rest of my life to public service.

In fact, I have the record here in Congress of being the Member who had the longest stretch between the time they first ran for Congress, which was 29 years before I was elected the second time.

What I know is this: We are specks in the timeline of history—few will remember us, but they will remember events. The corridor to the Members' dining room on the House side shows a mural of L'Enfant choosing the site for the U.S. Capitol, then President Washington is seen actually laying the cornerstone, and then in 1814 the British burning the Capitol, and then the Rotunda being used to house Union soldiers as a medical center.

There is one more mural that has to be placed in that corridor. It is the mural of January 6.

What will we do to prevent another one? That is the challenge to all of us.

What will we do to lower the rhetorical temperature in this sanctuary of democracy?

Will we ever end the blood sport that goes on in this Chamber?

Above us on the ceiling is the eagle with the words *e pluribus unum*: Out of many, one. It is our duty to our constituents, not to our Facebook audience or Twitter followers. It is not our goal to increase our followers. It is our duty to increase the confidence of our constituents in democracy in getting things done.

Madam Speaker, I hope the 118th Congress will do what I was not able to do in 10 years and get the ERA into the Constitution of the United States; it is 24 words. Every democracy in the world has an ERA in their constitution but the United States.

I hope that we will restore the right to reproductive autonomy for every woman.

I hope that we will do what we should do and pass an assault weapons ban. Surely, we can prohibit the purchase of these weapons of war by teenagers.

We should make permanent the child tax credit; we lifted half of the children in this country out of poverty last year when we did that.

We have got to do a better job of providing for our servicemen and service-women.

Madam Speaker, I have had an extraordinary staff these almost 15 years.

They make me sound smarter than I am, more articulate than I am. They work long hours to move legislation. They plan conferences in the district for senior citizens, job seekers, students, and all the many, many town-halls we have had.

Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD the names of former staff members. They are the heroes and heroes of this institution.

FORMER DC STAFF

Barron	Jenny Werwa	Mike Beard
YoungSmith	Josh Connolly	Miriam
Benjamin	Justin Vogt	Goldstein
Broadmeadow	Kat Skyles	Mitchel
Chuck Jackson	Kate Brennan	Hochberg
Christine Seibert	Kate Loomis	Molly Fishman
Emily Small	Katherine	Nahmyo Thomas
Felix Wu	Brandt	Nina Serianne
Gina Davenport	Kenneth Dowling	Page Beavers
Greg Roth	Lindsey Stein	Peter Viola
Heather	Luke Huisenga	Rachel Marshall
Melancon	Mandy	Regi Sellote
Ian Staples	Smithberger	Ryan Galisewski
Jacqui Wang	Mia Mazer	Sera Alptekin
James Pollack	Michelle	Thomas Puppi
Jason Hamm	McGrain	Yelena Tsilker

CURRENT DC STAFF

Yana Mayaveva	Brian Collins	Nolan Dunnahoo
Kate Adams	Ali Musser	
Tracy Manzer	Luisa Gunn	

CURRENT DISTRICT OFFICE STAFF

Katrina Rill	Angela Kimble	Sara Trejo
Raghdha Karajah	Brian Perkins	

FORMER DISTRICT OFFICE STAFF

Mike Larsen	Samantha Logan	John Krolik
Tina Larsen	Niall Roberts	Alana Paul
Margaret	Estefani Morales	Ellen Ginsberg
Hernandez	Alexandra Carter	Julie Hoffman
Mark Nagales	Barbara	Jonathan Gast
Margo Rosen	Braganza	Samantha Rojas
Mike Aydelott	Carolyn Wylie	Meghan Coulson
Katie Ferrick	Tom Adams	Rebecca Wolfson
Kathleen	Michelle Kong	Alyson Megur
Wentworth	Aaron Keisler	Liz Becker
Richard Steffen	Shauna France	
	Mark Leach	

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I thank my constituents for the greatest opportunity of my life—to serve them.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 57 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. KAHELE) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Margaret Grun Kibben, offered the following prayer:

Come Lord, our Redeemer; quickly come. Send Your spirit, Your spirit of wisdom and understanding, of counsel and might, that this world of pain and sadness, of war and dissension, would find peace and joy in the knowledge of You, O Lord, our God.

In the dark streets of our war-torn world, the alleys of our crime-ravaged cities, on the aisles of our divided Nation, shine Your everlasting light.

Dare we hope that after 300 days of the violence and suffering in Ukraine that You would cause the wolf to dwell with the lamb?

In the randomness of horror pillaging the towns and cities of our own country, will You tame the leopard to lie down alongside the goat?

Can the calf and the lion in our own house dwell in harmony?

Lead us, O God, to this most holy moment, that we not just dare to believe, but that we would be compelled to play our part in establishing Your peace in our world, in our Nation, and in this place.

Savior, like a shepherd lead us. We pray in Your name for our redemption. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1 of rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

AUTHORIZING THE SPEAKER TO DECLARE A RECESS ON WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2022, FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECEIVING IN JOINT MEETING HIS EXCELLENCY VOLODYMYR ZELENSKYY, PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE

Ms. SHERRILL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it may be in order at any time today, for the Speaker to declare a recess, subject to the call of the Chair, for the purpose of receiving in joint meeting His Excellency Volodymyr Zelenskyy, President of Ukraine.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF HON. ROSA L. DELAURO TO ACT AS SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE TO SIGN ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS THROUGH THE REMAINDER OF THE 117TH CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker: